

Your Name: *Nicholas Lacasse*

Form for Evaluating Internet Information Resources

(NOTE: This form is not for evaluating productivity software/sites, simulation games/sites, or educational software/games/sites)

1. **URL of Web page being evaluated:** <http://www.wikihow.com/Be-an-Effective-Public-Speaker>
 2. **Primary use (students, teacher, parent, other,...):** student
-

Questions 3-10 are about the site that is hosting your page.

3. **Truncate the URL of the Web page. What is the domain name of the Web site?**
<http://www.wikihow.com>
 4. **What is the name of Web site?** *WikiHow*
 5. **What is the purpose or goal of this Web site?** *This goal of WikiHow is to create a comprehensive compilation of "How-To" guides for any topic.*
 6. **What organization or individual created this site?** *The website was created by Jack Herrick and is powered by Mediawiki. Due to the nature of the website, a wiki, there are many contributors.*
 7. **What affiliations/purpose/audience do they have that might create a built-in bias toward the information? What is that bias?** (Note: every site has bias, you just have to be aware of what that bias is and be prepared to defend it or present information from other viewpoints.) *There are many authors of content so the biases will also be varied. Fortunately, there can be multiple authors on a single elements which means as the content filters through each set of hands the biases will hopefully balance out.*
 8. **What other types of organizations link to this site?** (Using the Google search engine, type *link:* and the Web site address (example: *link:www.website.com*)) *There aren't a whole lot of other places which link to wikihow.*
 9. **Is there a way to provide feedback on the Web site and create an exchange with the author or Web site manager?** *Anyone can make adjustments to the articles on the website if they create an account. Accounts are free, and just like other wikis they keep page histories in case there is any vandalism.*
-

Questions 10-12 are about the specific page that has information for your project/unit:

10. **Who is the author of the page and does that person have valid credentials to present this information (the creator of the site is not always the author of a page within the site)?** *Due to the collaborative nature of the website we cannot guarantee the credentials. However, in many cases the step-by-step guides are for things which work by proof. For example, the site contains information such as "How to bake a chicken." There are normally accompanying pictures or videos which would be difficult to fake. In terms of public speaking, however, there is no way to guarantee that these are practices approved by experts in public speaking.*

11. **What other references are cited for the information presented?** *The text on the page has no given sources but they embedded a youtube video by Toastmasters, a group renowned for being experts on public speaking.*
12. **How old is the material on the page? Is it current or outdated (copyright year is not the same as the last update)?** *There is no copyright date on specific articles on wikihow.*
-

Final evaluation questions:

13. **Are there ads linked to the page or the site that might make this page inappropriate for your audience? Are the ads “sticky” or static? If there are no ads, how is this Web site paid for (where do they get their money)?** *The website uses AdChoice, an interest-based targeted advertisement system.*
14. **Is there other content on the site that appears affiliated with the information you’ve selected that might make this page inappropriate** (a Web site with great tutorials on how to make good movies with sections on how to make a documentary, a biography, an infomercial, etc. might also have a tutorial on making an inappropriate movie)? *This website provides the “how-to”s on many topics. Even ones that would be inappropriate for certain ages.*
15. **How helpful is this site/page to you? Does it have the information you need and feel confident using?** *The information on this page is very helpful.*
16. **Describe how this Web site/page might be used in your project/unit:** *This website about public speaking has its place in terms of students introducing their product to the class and also in the video-documentary.*
17. **Reviewing your answers above, is this a good page/site to use for your project/unit? Why or why not?** (NOTE: Some questions above may not apply to your page; there is no rule as to how many “correct” answers are needed for a page to be good or what constitutes a “bad” page. You just need to be able to justify your choices and the information above can provide good support.) *This site has is an excellent resource on public speaking. It provides great tips which are helpful to all levels of pubic speaking skill.*